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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Inter Club -- Recently Opened Club for Merchant Seamen in Gdynia

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1. [redacted] our ship was in Gdynia, Poland, where she loaded 428 tons of general cargo consisting of hams, poppy seed, dolls and Christmas tree ornaments. [redacted] the Inter Club, a recently opened establishment which caters to merchant seamen. [redacted] heard that the furnishings in the club had come from various castles throughout Poland. [redacted] forward to a chance to examine them. [redacted] the club was, as rumored, elaborately furnished with period pieces.

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2. [redacted] at the door by a receptionist but on going inside found that there were not many people present at that time of day. [redacted] the club's two floors, which were open to general visiting, [redacted] The parquet floor was of inlaid mahogany.

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Guest Book. There was a guest book on a table on the first floor. Registering was neither mandatory nor requested. In the book there was space for the person's name, date, and ship. There was also a place for comments with regard to the facilities of the club and for any appropriate suggestions. On an adjacent wall there was a portrait of the President of Poland. Behind this portrait there was a loud speaker from which music was coming. Propaganda pictures hung on another wall of the room. Also in the same room there was a souvenir counter where dolls and knickknacks could be bought at a reasonable price.

Bar. In another room on the first floor there was a bar. [redacted] about the costs of the drinks or what was available. There were several tables and chairs in the room for the convenience of the guests. Other rooms

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on this floor were not open [REDACTED] they were probably storerooms.

Reading Room. On the second floor directly over the manager's office there was a reading room where books, newspapers and magazines were available. There was a woman attendant on duty there. She professed to be of Swedish extraction. Ostensibly a Communist and the widow of a Polish national, she said she was permitted to return to Sweden occasionally for visits, but each time she was required to leave her children in Poland. She added that once the children were old enough she planned to return to Sweden for good; she implied that she was through with Communism.

Other Rooms. The remainder of the second floor was also given over to recreation. One room contained two ping-pong and three billiard tables; another had only a sofa, chairs and tables; the third was used for screening films. The films shown included US cartoons such as "Tom and Jerry".

-end-

ENCLOSURE (A): Sketch of 1st floor
(B): Sketch of 2nd floor

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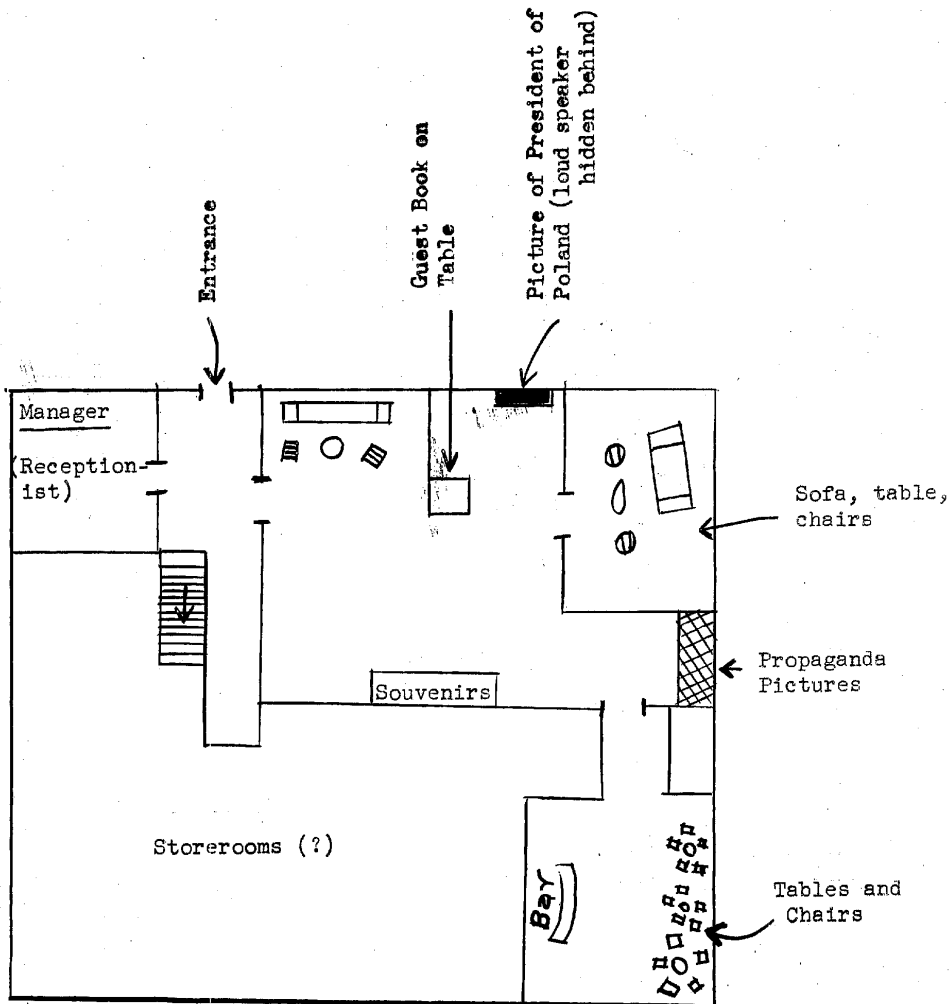
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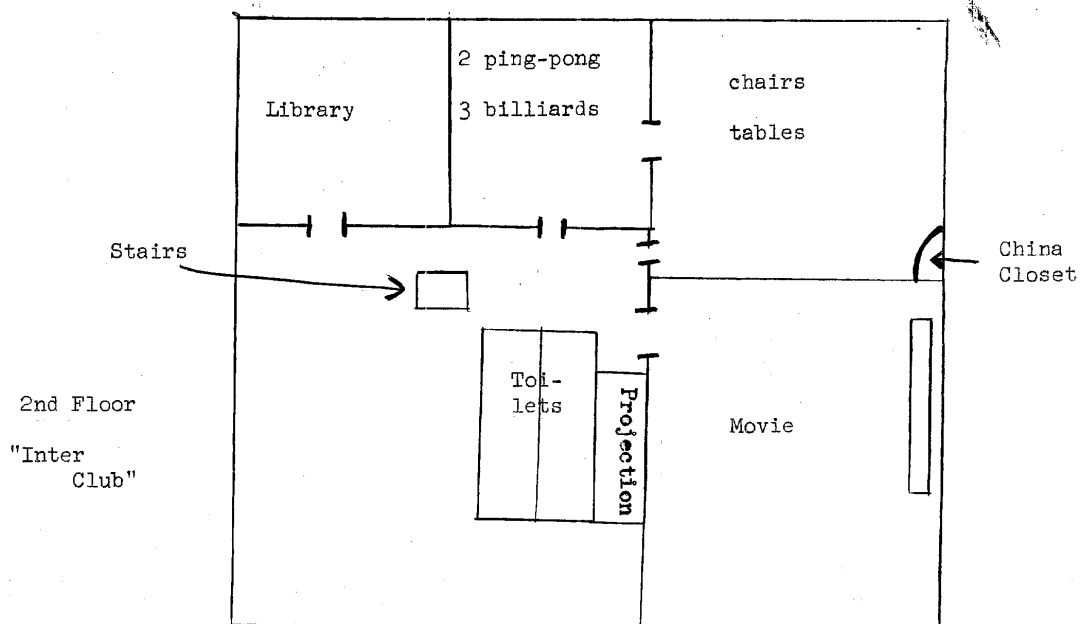
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